

A LEGAL LIGHT.

The Successful Career of Mr. Edward A. Johnson, Lawyer, Author, Scholar and Leader—A Business Man of Standing and a Large Taxpayer.

Hon. E. A. Johnson, the subject of this sketch is a native of Raleigh, N. C. He received a grammar school course in the Washington School of Raleigh, and subsequently finished his education at Atlanta University. Returning to Raleigh, he was elected principal of the Washington School in which he received his early training, with nine teachers and some six hundred pupils. After six years of highly efficient work here, he was called to a position as co-instructor in the Law Depart-



HON. E. A. JOHNSON.

ment of Shaw University. After four years in this place he was given entire charge of the department and elected Dean, and for the last ten years has been turning out some of the best products of young lawyers that the race can boast of. Notable among these is Mr. A. W. Scott, a practitioner in this city, and Mr. J. C. Robertson, General Counsel of the True Reformers, at Richmond, Va.

While engaged at Shaw University Prof. Johnson held other important positions, having been twice elected member of the Board of Aldermen of the city of Raleigh, and for eight years was chairman of the Executive Committee of the Fourth Congressional or Metropolitan district of North Carolina, and was chosen delegate to the National Republican Convention.

Mr. Johnson is the author of "The School History of the Negro Race in America," "The History of the Negro Soldiers in the Spanish American War," "The Negro Almanac and Statistics," and will shortly have out a new work from the Grafton Press of New York, entitled, "Light Ahead for the Negro." His History has been adopted as a text book by the North Carolina State Board of Education, the only instance of such recognition having been given a colored man in this country; and his books without doubt have the widest sale of those of any colored author.

He is a lawyer of keen and accurate judgment and seldom loses a case, having won every case he has had before the Supreme Court of his State, and in one instance a former member of the court was on the opposite side. He is a business man and a liberal contributor to worthy charity. His personal accumulations, according to the tax books, show a fortune of twenty five thousand dollars. All this is the result of fifteen years of

work, having come out of school without a penny, and is a most worthy object lesson to those young men who are ambitious and aspiring. If all our young men could catch hold at the right place and gradually climb as he has, the much discussed race problem would soon vanish.

Lieutenant Pinchback in Charge.

During the month of August while Mr. Dutton, the Deputy Recorder was away on his vacation, Mr. Walter A. Pinchback acted in his stead, by transacting the business usually attended to by the deputy recorder. This work consists in receiving papers for record, acting as disbursing officer, and having supervision of the working forces in general. This is the first within the history of the office, with one exception, namely when Mr. Trotter was Recorder, and Mr. Henry Johnson, Deputy Recorder, that the actual running of the office was managed entirely by colored men. Mr. Pinchback was the recipient of no few compliments for the manner in which he performed the duties imposed upon him through the absence of Mr. Dutton.

Paid Brief Visit to Paul Lawrence Dunbar.

Mr. Gerald Tyler, before leaving for Washington, D. C., ran over to Dayton yesterday to visit Paul Lawrence Dunbar, the poet, who is still quite ill.

The officials of the National Cash Register company, on learning of his presence in the city, arranged an impromptu reception for him and he sang and played several pieces for them.

Mr. Tyler goes to Washington this morning to assume his new position at the head of the piano department of the Washington Conservatory of Music—Ohio State Journal.

Wedding Bells.

The marriage of Miss Lillie Jones to Mr. Harvey Smith, which recently took place, will be followed by the marriage of her mother to Mr. A. I. Bill, in the Spring. Mr. Billows is a prominent Mason and business man of Pittsburg, Pa.

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